



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 3

Meeting Date: April 15, 2013
Meeting Location: Juvenile Justice Center
1000 South Michigan
South Bend, IN

Council Members Present: Fay Russell, Regional Manager DCS; Teresa Zornig, Division Manager St. Joseph County DCS; William Horton, St Joseph County DCS; Pam Whisman, Marshall County DCS; Michael Carroll, Director Marshall County DCS; Erin Shidler, Director Kosciusko DCS; Tony Sommer, Director Elkhart County DCS; Linda Cioch, Director St. Joseph County.

Council Members Absent: Judge Duane Huffer, Kosciusko County Superior Court; Judge Curtis Palmer; Joe Wine, Foster Parent; Magistrate Deborah Domine; Don Phillips, Bashor; James Pheilbush; Scott Filley.

Others In Attendance: Joni Tusing, DCS; Rachel Tobin-Smith, SCAN; Hong Nguyen, DCS; Emily Robinson-Johnson, Oaklawn; Leah Plank, CAPS; Mike Marchi, Memorial Hospital; Pat Hancock, Center for Positive Change; Candy Yoder, CAPS; Jennifer Pickering, CASA; Terry Poindexter, Whites; Sean McCrindle, Bashor; Adrienne Dickerson, Lifeline Youth and Family Services; Libby Martin, Lutheran Social Services; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad; Jean Reed, Dockside; Heather Owsley, Youth Villages; Melissa McWilliams, Lifeline; Jim Hendricks, Whittington Homes; Marla Godette, Oaklawn; Bonnie Strycker, Youth Service Bureau; Jen Martin, St. Joseph County Probation.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by Fay Russell.

1. Welcome/Introductions of Members and Guests.
2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of 03-18-13 reviewed. Joni Tusing noted that her name was excluded from "Others in Attendance" in the Minutes, and that Bill Horton was listed as being from Elkhart County, should be St. Joseph County. Terri Zornig motioned approval of the Minutes. Tony Sommer seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved with corrections.
3. Community Partners Update. Rachel Tobin-Smith brought the correct financial information for the current contract time. 69,500 billed in February. 40,348 in Contracted Services. We have clients, providers do not have space. Do not have enough staff right now. We have allowed some clients to continue with services because we have had the money. Providers have been hesitant to hire more people to accommodate because we do not know what our money will be in July. Paige Hamilton will be encouraging them to hire part-time people. There were 120 referrals last month. We are working on retraining people to make the initial 5-day contact. The state has said that they would prefer that we spend some of the money on flex funds.

Input to "wean" people off rather than "cut" people off. Clients prefer a longer period of time to "graduate them down".

Statistics look good, providers doing a great job. Graph is not correct.

Question was raised as to how to help people with housing so as to not keep crippling them along. Detaining because a person is homeless should be remedied. If we have funds, and the situation is due to housing, could these be referred to you to help with housing? Rental situations can be helped, but have never done anything with mortgages. We would be able to help with these cases. They would need to accept services also. The Case Manager's and Provider's jobs are imperative in helping these people gain their independence. Funds are going to be more than they were in the past unless something catastrophic happens in the state. We just do not know how much more.

Q: When will be the cut-off date for clients coming in with this budget? Accept new until June 30th? We also would like Service Providers to make sure to get their billing in on time.

Q: If there is a backlog of getting clients into the services, will there be new partner agencies added? We have not looked at adding new providers. Our providers need to see that there is stability.

Directors, please go back and check any unsubbed 311's to see if there is anything the family needs where they might be at risk, please make a referral.

4. Service Update. Hong Nguyen

The following Regional RFP Proposals were voted on for additional Services:

Oaklawn Psychiatric Center

DV- Batterers

Center For Positive Change

DV- Batterers

DV-Victim and Child

Substance Use Outpatient Treatment

Venture Counseling

Father Engagement Programs

DV- Batterers

DV- Victim and Child

Erin Shidler motioned to approve the new Providers. Bill Horton seconded the motion. Tony Sommer abstained. Motion was carried. These new Providers will begin July 1st.

Jeff Bedree will be replacing Hong for Region 3.

5. Regional Budget Update. Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager. Have not revised the budget that I present to you. The region is right on track.

6. Counties Updates.

--Marshall—Candlelight Vigil will be in the parking lot of the Marshall County DCS office. Have invited the Mayor of Plymouth, a minister participating, CASA is involved also. We are busy and at full staff.

--Kosciusko—Partnering with CASA for the Candlelight Vigil, will be on the Courthouse steps in Warsaw. Will have speakers from a Domestic Violence Shelter, Salvation Army, and a Children's Choir.

--St Joseph—Candlelight Vigil will be held at the Jon R. Hunt Plaza by the Morris Civic. Have a local DJ who has also helped with our Roof Sits. Partnering with PCA of St. Joseph County, a Representative from a Mayor's office, possibly one of the Judges, Children's Choir, a Reverend to give an Invocation, will have kids reading poems, possibly a solo at the end.

--Elkhart—Partnering with CAPS on the lawn at the Joy Rose Center. Main speaker is the Juvenile Magistrate from Elkhart County, also have a former ward that is in Collaborative Care who will be speaking, presentation from the Memorial Choir, and a solo at the end.

We were given short notice from the Governor's Office to plan this activity. This will be an annual event, so it should be easier to plan for the upcoming year's ceremony and to "grow" the event.

7. Other Business.

Q: Renewed contracts have been sent to Providers for signatures, have those been for Community-Based Service standards? Attachment A's have been sent out, but do not know in what order. These have been going out electronically. Hong can check for specific questions.

Adjourned at 10:45

May RSC Meeting - Monday, May 20, 2013 CANCELLED

Next RSC Meeting - Monday, June 17, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., 1000 South Michigan, South Bend, IN